

Remarks

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed January 13, 2003. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's consideration of the Application, the Examiner's allowance of Claims 2-5, 7-12, 20-21, 23-26, 28-31, 33-38, 45-54, and 66, and the Examiner's acknowledgement that Claims 17-18, 43-44, 59-60, and 65 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Although Applicants believe all pending claims are allowable over the prior art of record without amendment, to expedite issuance of this Application Applicants have canceled Claims 13, 39, 55, and 61, have rewritten Claims 17, 43, 59, and 65 in independent form, and have changed the dependencies of Claims 14-16, 40-42, 56-58, and 62-64. These changes do not narrow at least Claims 17-18, 43-44, 59-60, and 65. None of these changes are considered necessary for patentability. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants' Claims are Allowable over *Takase*

The Examiner rejects Claims 13-14, 16, 39-40, 42, 55-56, 58, 61-62, and 64 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,612,959 to Takase et al. ("*Takase*"). As noted above, although Applicants believe all pending claims are allowable over the prior art of record without amendment, to expedite issuance of this Application Applicants have canceled Claims 13, 39, 55, and 61, have rewritten Claims 17, 43, 59, and 65 in independent form, and have changed the dependencies of Claims 14-16, 40-42, 56-58, and 62-64. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants' Claims are Allowable over *Takase* and *Rothschild*

The Examiner rejects Claims 15, 41, 57, and 63 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Takase* in view of U.S. Patent 5,822,523 to Rothschild et al. ("*Rothschild*"). As noted above, although Applicants believe all pending claims are allowable over the prior art of record without amendment, to expedite issuance of this Application Applicants have canceled Claims 13, 39, 55, and 61, have rewritten Claims 17, 43, 59, and 65 in independent form, and have changed the dependencies of Claims 14-16, 40-42, 56-58, and 62-64. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 2-5, 7-12, 20-21, 23-26, 28-31, 33-38, 45-54, and 66 and the Examiner's acknowledgement that Claims 17-18, 43-44, 59-60, and 65 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicants respectfully issue a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicants do not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations, or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner.

Conclusion

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the Examiner is invited to contact Christopher W. Kennerly, Attorney for Applicants, at the Examiner's convenience at (214) 953-6812.

Although Applicants believe no fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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Appendix A
Mark-Ups Reflecting Changes to the Claims

Please cancel Claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

14. **(Amended)** The device of Claim [13] 17, wherein the device is a switching unit further comprising a backplane and the network comprises a control bus.

15. **(Amended)** The device of Claim [13] 17, wherein the message packet is a physical layer message packet and the data packet comprises a message packet associated with a higher level protocol comprising one of:

Internet Protocol (IP);

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP); and

User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

16. **(Amended)** The device of Claim [13] 17, wherein the sender is operable to communicate the data packet to one or more identified receivers as a point-to-point, multi-cast, or broadcast message according to the destination code.

17. **(Amended)** [The device of Claim 13, wherein] **A telecommunications device, comprising:**

a local area network;

a plurality of receivers coupled to the network; and

a sender coupled to the network and operable to generate a message packet comprising a destination code and a data packet, the destination code having values for a plurality of positions, each position corresponding to a particular receiver, the sender operable to identify one or more receivers for the data packet according to the values of the positions corresponding to the receivers, the sender operable to communicate the data packet to the identified receivers;

the sender [is] operable to communicate the destination code to each receiver, [and] each receiver [has] **having** an associated receive code comprising values for a plurality of positions, each position corresponding to a particular receiver, each receiver operable to receive the destination code and to compare the value for at least one position of the

destination code with the value for at least one position of the receive code, each receiver operable to determine whether to receive the data packet according to the comparison.

Please cancel Claim 39 without prejudice or disclaimer.

40. (Amended) The method of Claim [39] 43, wherein the device is a switching unit having a backplane and the network comprises a control bus.

41. (Amended) The method of Claim [39] 43, wherein the message packet is a physical layer message packet and the data packet comprises a message packet associated with a higher level protocol comprising one of:

Internet Protocol (IP);
Transmission Control Protocol (TCP); and
User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

42. (Amended) The method of Claim [39] 43, wherein communicating the data packet comprises communicating the data packet to one or more receivers as a point-to-point, multi-cast, or broadcast message according to the destination code.

43. (Amended) [The method of Claim 39, further comprising:] A method of communicating a data packet using a local area network within a telecommunications device, comprising:

generating a message packet comprising a destination code and the data packet, the destination code having values for a plurality of positions, each of the positions corresponding to a particular receiver;

identifying one or more receivers for the data packet according to the values of the positions corresponding to the receivers;

communicating the data packet to the identified receivers using the network;
receiving the destination code;

comparing the value for at least one position of the destination code with the value for at least one position of a receive code, the receive code associated with a receiver and comprising values for a plurality of positions, each position corresponding to a particular receiver; and

determining whether to receive the data packet according to the comparison.

Please cancel Claim 55 without prejudice or disclaimer.

56. (Amended) The logic of Claim [55] 59, wherein the device is a switching unit having a backplane and the network comprises a control bus.

57. (Amended) The logic of Claim [55] 59, wherein the message packet is a physical layer message packet and the data packet comprises a message packet associated with a higher level protocol comprising one of:

Internet Protocol (IP);

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP); and

User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

58. (Amended) The logic of Claim [55] 59, wherein the logic operable to communicate the data packet comprises the logic operable to communicate the data packet to one or more receivers as a point-to-point, multi-cast, or broadcast message according to the destination code.

59. (Amended) [The logic of Claim 55, further operable to:] Logic for communicating a data packet using a local area network within a telecommunications device, the logic encoded in media and operable to:

generate a message packet comprising a destination code and the data packet, the destination code having values for a plurality of positions, each of the positions corresponding to a particular receiver;

identify one or more receivers for the data packet according to the values of the positions corresponding to the receivers;

communicate the data packet to the identified receivers using the network;

receive the destination code;

compare the value for at least one position of the destination code with the value for at least one position of a receive code, the receive code associated with a receiver and comprising values for a plurality of positions, each position corresponding to a particular receiver; and

determine whether to receive the data packet according to the comparison.

Please cancel Claim 61 without prejudice or disclaimer.

62. (Amended) The message packet of Claim [61] 65, wherein the device is a switching unit further comprising a backplane and the network comprises a control bus.

63. (Amended) The message packet of Claim [61] 65, wherein the message packet is a physical layer message packet and the data packet comprises a message packet associated with a higher level protocol comprising one of:

Internet Protocol (IP);

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP); and

User Datagram Protocol (UDP).

64. (Amended) The message packet of Claim [61] 65, wherein the data packet is operable to be communicated to the one or more identified receivers as a point-to-point, multi-cast, or broadcast message according to the destination code.

65. (Amended) [The message packet of Claim 61, wherein] A message packet for communication using a local area network within a telecommunications device, comprising:

a data packet; and

a destination code, the destination code having values for a plurality of positions, each position corresponding to a particular receiver, the values of the positions corresponding to the receivers operable to identify one or more receivers for the data packet, the data packet operable to be communicated to the identified receivers;

the destination code [is] operable to be communicated to each receiver, [and] each receiver [has] having an associated receive code comprising values for a plurality of positions, each position corresponding to a particular receiver, the destination code operable

to be received by each receiver and the value for at least one position of the destination code compared with the value for at least one position of the receive code by the receiver to determine whether to receive the data packet.